

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0002] with the following amended paragraph:

[0002] The commercially available guide arms are not remotely positioned by the use of independent drives for the arms to afford the proper location of one or more arms across the full width of the guide rail by having a feed-back on the exact location of each guide arm and adjust this position in relation to the lateral movement of the web in a continuous manner. Previously, the guide arms were mounted on a beam placed in the laminating machine and the beam had to be removed from the machine for any extensive adjustment of the arms. The guide arms then had means for individual adjustment but the amount of movement was limited. More recently a machine was introduced which gave back the position of the guide arms as an electronic reading on a display screen from which the operator could adjust each guide arm remotely but manually. The operator still has to determine if each ribbon in the laminator is at [[it's]] its required position and manually adjusts it. Furthermore, to thread up each guide arm with the ribbon, either at start-up or if a ribbon broke during operation, the laminator machine has to be stopped and the complete guide arm system has to be removed to gain access to the guide arms to be threaded. The same problem happens when multiple orders are being planned on the laminator. If one more ribbon has to be added in the following production run on the laminator, the said laminator has to be stopped and the complete guide arm system has to be removed from the laminator to thread-up the supplemental guide arm. Finally the existing remotely adjustable guide arms U.S. Pat. No. 5,759,339 uses a belt system to position each guide arm. Using a belt is not precise enough, the belt being too flexible, preventing the operator from obtaining the adequate positioning of each ribbon.

Please replace paragraph [0004] with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] The present invention provides an apparatus and method for precisely placing one or more continuous ribbons on the web, the ribbons extending parallel in the machine direction. A plurality of ribbons would be placed in transversely spaced relationship. Changes in the

position of anyone or more of the ribbon dispensing guide arms is accomplished remotely of the location of the guide arms on a guide beam. The apparatus also uses an electronic system to automatically determine the edge of the web and feed-back the information to the control unit which in turn adjusts each guide arm automatically and adequately, even when the web is moving laterally over time. Changes in position of the ribbons ~~[[is]]~~ are dictated by the use of the substrate in the later manufacture of the bag or carton. The ribbons can be coated with a hot melt type adhesive and bonded to the web during the laminating. Depending on the strength of the ribbon, the same will be a suitable transverse reinforcement of the substrate or serve as a tear strip affording ease in opening the container to be formed from the substrate.

Please replace paragraph [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] In one embodiment the frame supports a transducer to afford a reading as to the position of the guide arm with respect to the centreline or an edge of the web. The transducer is connected to a control and display box providing a numeric digital readout giving the location along the guide beam of the guide arm or arms. The guide arms are provided with means cooperating with the transducer to afford a signal in response to a current pulse sent from the display box along the transducer. The signal from each arm is discerned by the electronics in the display box to calculate the distance any particular guide arm is from the predetermined "0" and the numeric value is displayed on the screen of the display box. Furthermore, an electronic system is used to monitor the edge of the web, which position is feed-back to the control unit which in turn sends the signal to automatically adjust the guide arms according to the lateral movement of the web, maintaining the required position of each ~~ribbons~~ ribbon in or on the web.

Please replace paragraph [0015] with the following amended paragraph:

[0015] FIG. 6 is a front ~~elevation~~ elevation view of the apparatus illustrating the guide beam and dispensing guide arm.

Please replace paragraph [00017] with the following amended paragraph:

[0017] As illustrated in the drawing the apparatus, generally designated 70, is adapted to be positioned in a web laminating machine, e.g., a corrugation machine, within an area generally triangular in cross section defined by a guide roll 46 for a liner or lower web 45, a guide roll 43 for a single face web 44, and the opposed double backer rolls 47 and 48 that are mounted for rotation about horizontal axes which extend transversely with respect to the in-machine direction across the entire width of liner 45 and web 44. As illustrated in FIG. 3 & 4, an apparatus 71, corresponding to apparatus 70, can additionally be mounted above the web 44 to apply a ribbon 20 to the side of the web 44 opposite the flutes 64, and directly aligned with a ribbon 20 positioned between the flutes 64 and the liner 45. The laminate can be die cut to form a pull tab so the superimposed ribbons form a tear tape to sever the laminate along the path of the ribbons when pulled through the liner 45. Preferably, a glue machine 38 holds the guide rolls 43, 46 and a double backer machine 37 holds the double backer rolls 47, 48.

Please replace paragraph [0019] with the following amended paragraph:

[0019] The apparatus frame 17 includes an internal support angle 58, which in turn support a bearing or guide rail 30, which is approximately 2500 mm in length, and is supported by the rollers 23 also supported the brackets 21. Frame member 19 & 34 supports a lead screw, generally designated 28, frame members 19 & 34 are supplied with bearing mounts to support the lead screw 28 and step motor 16 which provide the means for rotating lead screw 28. The bottom plate guide arm 33 supports the lead nut support 32 and the lead nut 31. The apparatus frame 17 further includes an angle frame member 58 which supports transducer 59. The transducer is held on internal support angle 58 by thermal insulative bushings. Further, the frame 33 has a guide rail 29 supported below the frame member 33. Frame 17 supports the internal support angle 58 which also acts as a brake bar. A cover, including a cover sheet 18 and a bottom cover 36, covers the frame 33 from the frame member 17 to the edge of member 33.

Please replace paragraph [0023] with the following amended paragraph:

[0023] The guide arms 40, one of which is described, comprise a support frame, generally designated 33, having a linear bearing 30 riding on the guide rail 29 and supporting two

pneumatic cylinders 55 and 62, and an upper bracket 24 supporting a plurality of guide pulleys 25,26 and 27 for the ribbon 20. Also, the frame 33 supports a permanent magnet 60 which is attached to each guide arm 40. The permanent magnet 60 substantially surrounds the transducer 59 and is supported from a bracket 61 connected to the frame. The drive cylinder 55 is actuated by pneumatic pressure to force a rubber bumper 56 toward the lead screw 28, forcing the lead screw nut 31 to block in the lead nut support 32, thus forcing the movement of guide arm 40 when the lead screw 28 is rotating. The cylinder 55 is pneumatically operated and is returned to the normal position by a return spring. The cylinder 62 is connected to the support frame 33 by a cylinder bracket 57 and acts as a ~~is the~~ locking cylinder which is normally activated by a source of pneumatic pressure through a pneumatic pressure supply line to drive a rubber bumper 63 against the internal support angle 58 on the frame 33 locking the guide arm 40 in position to the frame 17. This lock for the guide arm 40 is normally applied and upon removal of the pneumatic pressure in the cylinder 62, the bumper 63 is separated from the internal support angle 58 by a return spring in and for the pneumatically operated cylinder 62 operating the bumper 63.

Please add the following new paragraph [0007.1] after paragraph [0007];

[0007.1] There is therefore provided an apparatus for the positioning of a dispenser for laminating an endless ribbon in relationship to a moving web having generally parallel edges defining a web width, said apparatus comprising:

- a) a traversing mechanism extending transversally of said web width and coupled to a drive means, said traversing mechanism defining a traversing path of a first predetermined length, having a direction and which provides a movement means along said traversing path,
- b) a guide rail of a second predetermined length, extending transversally of said web width and positioned in a parallel direction to said direction of said traversing path,
- c) a plurality of guide arms, each said guide arm having
 - i. a dispensing means for dispensing said ribbon and a transversal position with respect to said traversing path,
 - ii. a locking means,

each said guide arm being movably supported on said guide rail and being either fixedly connected to said movement means or being fixedly connected to said apparatus by said locking means,
wherein said first predetermined lengths of said traversing path and said second predetermined lengths of said guide rail means transversely extend beyond said web width.

Please add the following new paragraph [0007.2] after new paragraph [0007.1];

[0007.2] There is furthermore provided an apparatus for the positioning of a dispenser for laminating an endless ribbon in relationship to a moving web having generally parallel edges and defining a web width, said apparatus comprising a traversing mechanism extending transversally of said web width and defining a traversing path having a direction, said traversing mechanism further provides a movement means along said traversing path, a guide rail extending transversally of said web width and positioned in a parallel direction to said direction of said traversing path, a plurality of guide arms, each having a transversal position with respect to said traversing path and comprising a locking means, each said guide arm being movably supported on said guide rail and being either fixedly connected to said movement means or being fixedly connected to said apparatus by said locking means, said apparatus further comprising:

- a) a control actuating system remotely controlling said locking means via a communication means,
 - b) a guide arm position measuring system acquiring said transversal position of each said guide arm,
 - c) an edge position measuring system tracking at least one of said edges of said web and which generates a transversal edge position with respect to said traversing path,
- said edge position measuring system and said guide arm position measuring system are linked to said control actuating system via said communication means.